

Message Text

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USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

S E C R E T STATE 154404

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFO,, NATO, MNUC, NPG

SUBJECT: NPG: OTTAWA MINISTERIAL FOLLOW-UP ACTION

REFS A.
USNATO 05965,DTG 241648Z JUN 77; B. USNATO 05908,
DTG 232304; JUN 77

1. WE ARE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE APPROACH PROPOSED
IN REF A.

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2. ON PARTICULAR TOPICS:

A. ON CRUISE MISSILES, YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO AVOID ANY
COMMITMENT TO THE PRODUCTION OF WRITTEN DOCUMENTS OR
STUDIES IN NATO. WE DO NOT SEE IT SIMPLY AS A MATTER OF
TECHNOLOGY, FOR INSTANCE.

B. ON TNF IMPROVEMENTS, WE DO NOT AT ALL SEE THE DPC OR EWG BECOMING IMMERSSED IN THE DETAILS OF A PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED IN THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF PAPER. WE CAN FEEL OUR WAY INTO THIS ONE, ONCE THE INITIAL US SUBMISSION HAS BEEN MADE.

C. ON NIKE HERCULES, AS YOU INDICATE, WE WOULD ANTICIPATE PREPARATION OF A SIMPLE TASKING LETTER FROM SYG TO CMC, TO

BE PREPARED AFTER PRELIMINARY BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IN BONN. SOME MINIMAL CONDITIONS MIGHT HAVE TO BE SPECIFIED IN THE TASKING LETTER (E.G., PRESERVING NATIONAL PARTICIPATION, CALCULATING MINIMAL CONTIGUOUS NUCLEAR COVERAGE FOR MEDIUM AND HIGH ALTITUDES RATHER THAN ALL ALTITUDES, ETC.), WITHOUT ATTEMPTING FULL-BLOWN TERMS OF REFERENCE.

D. ON PHASE III, WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH A SPECIFIC DATE FOR A FIRST DRAFT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IN THE MEANTIME, WE TEND TO DISAGREE THAT THE WORK NEEDS TO BE ACCELERATED SIMPLY BECAUSE OF THE TNF ASPECTS OF THE LONG TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM. THE BASIS FOR PROCEEDING WITH THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM IS ALREADY AMPLE.

E. ON MARITIME NUCLEAR WARFARE STUDY, WHILE WE ARE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE STAFF GROUP PREPARING A FORMAL
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REPORT FOR MINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION, WE ARE AWARE OF ALLIED CONCERNS ON THIS SUBJECT AND ARE WILLING TO AGREE TO A PERMREPS REPORT.

F. NEW TECHNOLOGY. WE DO NOT WISH TO ENCOURAGE RECONVENING THE TECHNOLOGY STUDY GROUP. WE BELIEVE NECESSARY DISCUSSIONS CAN TAKE PLACE IN THE STAFF GROUP, MOST OF WHOSE MEMBERS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN MIT AND PIT WORK, WITH GUIDANCE FROM CAPITALS. HOWEVER, IF A CLEAR CONSENSUS DEVELOPS SUPPORTING SUCH A RECONVENING OF THE TECHNOLOGY STUDY GROUP FOR THE PURPOSE OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE TSG RECOMMENDATIONS IN CONSONANCE WITH THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM WE ARE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE.

3. WE WOULD PREFER THAT MINISTERIAL FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS BE THE SUBJECT OF A SYG PO, AS HAS BEEN DONE IN THE PAST, RATHER THAN AN IS REPORT.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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